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Message Text

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53
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 USSS-00 /031 W
---------- 097172
O P 131347Z OCT 73
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4560
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1128

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AMER, JO, IS
SUBJECT: E & E SITUATION IN JERUSALEM

1. WITH ENTRY OF JORDAN, THE WAR MOVES CLOSER TO JERUSALEM. IT IS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE HOW THE SAFETY OF U.S. CITIZENS HERE MAY BE AFFTECTED, HOWEVER, JORDANIAN FORCES HAVING MOVED INTO SYRIA, SITE OF ACTUAL HOSTILITIES WOULD STILL SEEM TO BE IN THAT AREA. SEEMS UNLIKELY, FROM WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, THAT JORDANIANS WILL ATTEMPT AT THIS STAGE TO MOVE ACROSS JORDAN INTO WEST BANK. WHETHER OR NOT HOSTILITIES COME TO NEIGHBORHOOD OF JERUSALEM SEEMS IN FIRST INSTANCE, THEREFORE, TO DEPEND ON HOW ISRAELIS REACT. IF THEY LIMIT THEMSELVES TO DEALING WITH JORDANIAN FORCE IN SYRIA, COUPLED PERHAPS WITH AIR RAIDS IN JORDAN, THE IMMEDIATE EFFECT HERE WILL NOT BE GREAT. IF THEY USE OCCASION TO MOVE FORCES OF THEIR OWN ACROSS JORDAN RIVER, STORY WILL BE DIFFERENT.

2. JORDAN'S MOVE, OF COURSE, PUTS BULK OF ARAB POPULATION IN EAST JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK (ALMOST ALL ARE JORDANIAN CITIZENS) TECHNICALLY AT WAR WITH ISRAEL. ISRAELI CONTROLS ON WEST BANK CAN BE EXPECTED TO TOUGHEN, AND BRIDGES WILL NO DOUBT CLOSE, BUT WE DO NOT SEE IMMEDIATE AND SERIOUS CONSE-
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QUENCES FOR AMERICANS RESULTING FROM THIS CURIOUS SITUATION. OVER LONGER RUN, TENSIONS MAY BUILD TO POINT WHERE PROBLEMS DO ARISE.

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3. WE PLAN TO RESPOND TO QUERIES FROM AMERICANS WHO MAY
BE CONCERNED ABOUT EFFECT OF JORDANIAN ENTRY THAT FOR THE
MOMENT OUR ADVICE REMAINS THE SAME -- NO IMMEDIATE DANGER,
STAY CLOSE TO HOME AND LISTEN TO NEWS, REGISTER AT CONSULATE.
WE WILL, HOWEVER, BEGIN TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE ENTRY INTO
WARNING PHASE ONE SHOULD SITUATION CHANGE.

4. FOR TEL AVIV: IT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE OF GREAT INTEREST
TO US, WITH EYE TO SAFETY OF U.S. CITIZENS HERE, TO HAVE
WHATEVER INDICATIONS YOU MAY PICK UP ABOUT LIKELY ISRAELI
REACTION.
DAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JERUSA01128
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750018-0086
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731065/abqceffi.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: E & E SITUATION IN JERUSALEM
TAGS: AEMR, IS, JO
To: STATE
TEL AVIV INFO AMMAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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